

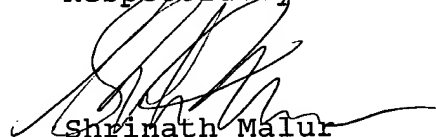
REMARKS

New claims 62-88 have been added. Accordingly, claims 1-4, 7-10, 13, 20-32, 34, 36-38, 40-42 and 44-88 are currently pending in the application.

It is submitted that the new claims added herein patentably define the present invention over the cited art. The thermal insulating layer recited in the claims is supported by the specification, by way of example only, on page 7, lines 15-23.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants contend that the above-identified application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and reexamination are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Shrinath Malur
Registration No. 34,663
Attorney for Applicant

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR
1800 Diagonal Rd., Suite 370
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
(703) 684-1120
Date: June 17, 2002